

A<sup>1</sup>

5. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1 wherein the maleic acid and/or maleic anhydride is admixed with the resin separately to application of the admixture of the lignocellulosic material.

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any on of claims 1 to 5] claim 1 wherein the maleic acid and/or maleic anhydride are admixed with a wax emulsion.

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8. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1 which utilises maleic anhydride.

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9. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1 wherein the phenol formaldehyde resin is a novolac resin.

10. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1 wherein the phenol formaldehyde is a resole resin.

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15. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 14] claim 1 wherein the method is applied to the bonding of lignocellulosic material to lignocellulsoic material.

19. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 15 to 18] claim 15 wherein the amount of resin and maleic anhydride and/or maleic acid is 2% to 15% by weight of the dry lignocellulosic material.

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20. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 15 to 19] claim 15 wherein the lignocellulosic material has a maximum water content of 14% by weight.

21. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 16 to 20] claim 16 wherein the product is orientated strand board.

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23. (Amended) A method as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 14] claim 1 applied to the bonding of lignocellulosic material to non-lignocellulosic material.

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